

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 15481 202113Z

13-12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 AID-05 OPR-02 SY-05 /081 W

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R 201300Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2344

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 15481

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT FLOPS

1. THE UNDERGROUND J.P. NARAYAN-ORIENTED PEOPLES STRUGGLE COMMITTEE (INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE JANA SANGH, BLD, SOCIALISTS, CONGRESS-O, AS WELL AS INDEPENDENTS AND SARVODAYA WORKERS) LAUNCHED A GANDHIAN CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT ON NOVEMBER 14. THE OBJECTIVE, AS IN PRE-INDEPENDENCE DAYS, IS TO MOBILIZE POPULAR SUPPORT FOR ITS CAUSE THROUGH PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS AND TO FILL THE COUNTRY'S JAILS TO OVERFLOWING. THE MOVEMENT IS TO CONTINUE INDEFINITELY.

2. AS ON THE SEVERAL OTHER OCCASIONS SINCE THE EMERGENCY WHEN THE OPPOSITION HAS ATTEMPTED "CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE" MOVEMENTS, THERE HAS BEEN NOTABLE LACK OF POPULAR RESPONSE. IN DELHI, LESS THAN 100 DEMONSTRATORS WERE ARRESTED ON THE OPENING DAY OF THE CAMPAIGN. CONGEN BOMBAY QUOTES UNI AS REPORTING THAT A TOTAL OF 177 DEMONSTRATORS WERE ARRESTED IN MAHARASHTRA. OPPOSITION SOURCES SAID THE FIGURE WAS NEAR TO 500. CONGEN CALCUTTA REPORTS THAT PROTESTS WERE CALLED OFF IN THE CALCUTTA AREA FOLLOWING

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THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF J.P.'S RELEASE. CONGEN MADRAS REPORTS

THAT ON NOVEMBER 16 OVER 200 OPPOSITION POLITICAL WORKERS
PARTICIPATED IN A PROTEST MEETING AT CONGRESS (O) HEADQUARTERS
IN MADRAS.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH PRESS CENSORSHIP RULES OUT THE
POSSIBILITY OF MEASURING THE POPULAR RESPONSE TO THE PSC
CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE TURNOUT
HAS BEEN LOW AND CONFINED TO SOME URBAN AREAS THUENFAR.
TYN PSC IS UNLIKELY TO DO ANY BETTER AS ITS "MOVEMENT"
PROCEEDS.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 20 NOV 1975
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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